

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1893
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2002
BIO-ATTACK
HARIBHAU MAHALE

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the devices available with the Government as well as the Indian Defence Services to repulse the bio-attack;
- (b) the medicine developed to prevent Malaria and other diseases caused by Dim Dim flies, black fly and Leech;
- (c) whether the use of Di ethyl Phenyl estamite cream prepared by the defence scientists is likely to create side effects; and
- (d) if so, the details in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) The measures available with the Government to repulse the bio-attack are detection, individual protection, medical protection and disinfection of agents. Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed several devices like diagnostic kits and individual protective devices like gas mask, canister and suit. Medical protection is available in the trade using anti-biotics.

(b) No medicine has been developed by DRDO to cure malaria. However, medicines are available in the trade for this purpose. DRDO has been working on screening and evaluation of plant products as larvicides/repellents to prevent the bites of mosquitoes, blackflies and leeches to prevent the disease.

(c) & (d) : The insect repellent Di Ethyl Phenyl Actamide has been developed by DRDO and it has no side effects.